

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The attached listing of claims, including all amendments made herein, is intended to replace all prior listings of claims:

1-17. Canceled.

18. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of antibodies, or fragments, or a combination thereof that specifically bind to WTA, wherein said antibodies or fragments thereof alleviate or block staphylococcal colonization upon administration to a patient.

19. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a polyclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of MAbs that specifically bind WTA, wherein the MAbs have non-identical amino acid sequences.

22. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

23. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

24. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

25. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the fragment is chosen from Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, Fv, SFv, and scFv.

26. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the colonization results in a staphylococcal infection selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

27. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the staphylococcal colonization results in a *S. aureus* infection.

28. (Currently Amended) A vaccine comprising: (a) the composition of claim 18; and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29. (Original) The vaccine of claim 28, wherein the colonization results in a staphylococcal infection selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

30. (Original) The vaccine of claim 28, wherein the staphylococcal colonization results in an *S. aureus* infection.

31-38. Canceled.

39. (New) A method for preventing or treating a staphylococcal infection in a patient, which comprises instilling into the patient a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of the composition of claim 18.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a polyclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

42. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of MAbs that specifically bind WTA, wherein the MAbs have non-identical amino acid sequences.

43. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

44. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

45. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

46. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of at least one anti-staphylococcal drug.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein the anti-staphylococcal drug comprises lysostaphin, nisin, or both.

48. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection is selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

49. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the antibody fragments are chosen from Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, Fv, SFv, and scFv.

50. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection is an *S. aureus* infection.

51. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the instilling comprises one or more of nasal instillation, oral instillation, airway instillation, or systematic instillation.

52. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is at risk of, or suffers from, at least one of cystic fibrosis, staphylococcal pneumonia, a staphylococcal contamination of a foreign body, a staphylococcal infection, and staphylococcal nasal colonization.

53. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is a mammal.

54. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is human.

55. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection comprises *S. aureus*.

56. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one antibiotic anti-staphylococcal drug.

57. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the at least one antibiotic anti-staphylococcal drug comprises mupirocin, bacitracin, or both.

58. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one lanthione-containing molecule.